



Frequently asked questions

What are the Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards?

The annual Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards (ACVPA) are a joint Australian Government, state and territory initiative administered by the Australian Institute of Criminology.

The awards are designed to recognise good practice in the prevention and reduction of violence and other types of crime in Australia, to encourage public initiatives to prevent crime and to assist governments in identifying and developing practical projects that will reduce violence and other types of crime in the community.

Winners will be presented with a commemorative plaque and/or a certificate at a national awards ceremony at Parliament House, Canberra. Monetary awards may also be granted at the discretion of the ACVPA Board. Winners will be invited to record video footage of their project and may be offered financial assistance to help with travel costs to attend the award ceremony in Canberra. Generally speaking, projects that are led by government agencies or are substantially supported by government funds are not eligible to receive cash awards.

Who can enter?

Nominations are open to projects of all sizes, including small initiatives involving local community groups. The project must have been fully operational prior to 1 February 2024 to be eligible for the 2025 awards.

Anyone can nominate a project for the awards. It may be a project you are involved in, or a project that you believe deserves recognition.

The awards are designed to reward benchmark projects, as well as projects which exhibit good practice in the prevention or reduction of violence and other types of crime in Australia.

Who is not eligible to apply for an award?

Projects that commenced after 1 February 2024 are not eligible for 2025, but may apply in 2026. Final eligibility is at the discretion of the ACVPA Board.

Does the project need to be ongoing?

No. The project can be ongoing or recently completed and some projects which are paused due to a lack of resources can still apply. However, an independent evaluation or evidence showing a project led to a decrease in crime in the community, or had the potential to do so, would be very useful in assessing the success of the project.

Our project has been nominated before—can we reapply?

Yes, but you will need to tell us how the project has changed since your last nomination. These changes need to have been in place for at least 12 months before you submit your nomination. You should differentiate the old and new project models, and outline how new components have added to the effectiveness of the project and enhanced crime prevention outcomes.

How are the award winners selected?

All nominations are reviewed by the ACVPA Board, which consists of representatives of each state and territory police service. With support from the Australian Institute of Criminology, the Board meets once a year to determine which of the nominated projects are most deserving of an award. There are separate award categories for projects led by police agencies and those led by other community or government organisations. Gold, silver and bronze awards are available in each category but not all levels of award are necessarily given out each year. The number of awards is at the discretion of the Board and will depend on the standard of nominations.

How does the Board choose the winning projects?

The Board's decisions take into account:

- the quality of the evidence presented to support the nomination
- the project's capacity or potential to prevent or reduce crime
- how project success is measured
- the ability of the project to be adapted to other locations
- how sustainable project outcomes are
- how innovative the project is
- whether the project raises community awareness of crime and violence.

What should I include in the summary description of the project?

The summary should clearly explain how the project operates. It should cover what crime problem the project is addressing, how it addresses the issue, project outcomes and evidence of the project's success. As these are awards for crime prevention and reduction, you must clearly demonstrate the crime prevention outcomes.

Do we need a comprehensive independent evaluation?

No. The evaluation could be a basic review of the project. When we say 'evaluation', we are looking for an objective review of the project which answers the question 'has the project been effective?' We need to know what has changed in the community as a result of the project, in order to judge its value.

Where do I send my completed ACVPA nomination?

All nominations for the 2025 ACVPAs must be submitted online via www.aic.gov.au/acvpa.

If required, you may attach further details about your nomination. Attachments should be kept to a reasonable size and quality.

What if I can't upload my supporting documents?

If your supporting documents exceed file size limitations and/or cannot be attached online, you may email them to acvpa@aic.gov.au or post them to:

2025 Awards
ACVPA Secretariat
Australian Institute of Criminology
GPO Box 1936
Canberra City ACT 2601

What happens if a nominated project receives an award?

Successful applicants will be notified by email and will need to return the requested form to the secretariat. This helps us organise the award ceremony and promote the awards.

Will unsuccessful applicants be notified?

Yes. Unsuccessful applicants will be advised of the outcome of their nomination in writing after the award ceremony.

Can I have assistance preparing a nomination?

If you require assistance in preparing your nomination, please phone your state or territory contact below, or the ACVPA Secretariat on 02 6268 7450. There is also advice on how to complete a quality nomination and an example of a completed nomination available on the website.

Contact	Phone
Mr Andrew McIntosh, Australian Capital Territory Government	02 6207 0550
A/Superintendent Jane Prior, New South Wales Police Force	02 9375 8104
Superintendent Megan Blackwell, Northern Territory Police	0459 866 402
A/Superintendent Robert Fleischer, Queensland Police Service	0434 587 168
Chief Inspector Melissa Gilchrist, South Australia Police	0437 139 625
Inspector Vanessa Castle, Tasmania Police	0419 363 337
Superintendent Mark Langhorn, Victoria Police	0428 660 294
Superintendent Sharon Bird, Western Australia Police Force	0437 015 027